## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method executed by multiple dispersed file servers for adapting data received from a remote sending device in a single heterogeneous network according to quality of service parameters associated with a plurality of network segments that are downstream from the dispersed file servers, the method comprising:

receiving at the dispersed file servers instructions, wherein the instructions instruct the dispersed file servers to adapt the data;

receiving the data from the remote sending device;

adapting the data to conform to quality of service parameters associated with each network segment downstream from one of the dispersed file servers therein adapting the data at the dispersed file servers rather than adapting the data at the remote sending device wherein the dispersed file servers are located between the remote sending device and the plurality of network segments in the single heterogeneous network, the single heterogeneous network comprising a plurality of sub-networks, the plurality of sub-networks comprising a combination of peer-to-peer and client/server network types, a combination of local and wide area networks, and a hybrid combination of physical and logical network constructions, the physical and logical network constructions including broadcast, network bus, network ring, and logical star constructions, wherein the data is adapted by changing the protocol and by implementing a compression mechanism in response to a determination that packet size of the data exceeds a maximum transmission unit (MTU) of each network segment;

transmitting the adapted data along each network segment to one of a plurality of segment endpoints wherein the segment endpoints comprise at least one recipient client and at least one sub-segment dispersed file server that further adapts the data previously adapted to conform the data according to quality of service parameters associated with a network sub-segment adjacent to and downstream from the at least one of the plurality of segment endpoints comprising the sub-segment dispersed file server;[[ and]]

detecting a change in the quality of service parameters associated with at least one of the plurality of network segments; and

requesting new programming for adapting the data from an administrator upon detecting a change ~~changes~~ in the quality of service parameters ~~associated with at least one of the plurality of network segments~~;

wherein values for the quality of service parameters vary among the plurality of network segments.

7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein adapting the data further comprises replicating the data.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising transmitting the quality of service parameters from the file server to a network administrator.

11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
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31. (Canceled)
32. (Canceled)
33. (Canceled)
34. (Canceled)
35. (Canceled)
35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon executable code which causes a file server to perform a method of adapting data according to a set of parameters associated with a network segment that is downstream from the file server, the method comprising:

receiving at the file server instructions, wherein the instructions instruct the file server to adapt the data;

receiving the data from a sending device;

adapting the data to conform to a set of quality of service parameters associated with a network segment downstream from the file server in a single heterogeneous network comprising a plurality of sub-networks, the plurality of sub-networks comprising a combination of peer-to-peer and client/server network types, a combination of local and wide area networks, and a hybrid combination of physical and logical network constructions, the physical and logical network constructions including broadcast, network bus, network ring, and logical star constructions, therein adapting the data at the device rather than adapting the data at the sending device, wherein the data is adapted by changing the protocol and by implementing a compression mechanism in response to a determination that a packet size of the data exceeds a maximum transmission unit (MTU) of the network segment;

translating a protocol of the data according to protocol requirements of the network segment;

transmitting the adapted data along the network segment to a sub-segment file server;

further adapting the adapted data at the sub-segment file server to conform according to a second set of quality of service parameters associated with a network sub-segment adjacent to and downstream from the sub-segment file server;

transmitting the adapted data along the network sub-segment to a client; and

requesting new programming for adapting the data from an administrator upon detecting changes in the quality of service parameters for the network segment;

wherein values for the quality of service parameters vary among each network segment.

37. (Canceled)
38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 36, wherein adapting the data further comprises replicating the stream of data.

40. (Canceled)
41. (Canceled)
42. (Canceled)
43. (Canceled)
44. (Canceled)
45. (Canceled)
46. (Canceled)
47. (Canceled)
48. (Canceled)

49. (New) A system for distributing multimedia content, comprising:

a source server configured to provide a multicast multimedia stream; and

a plurality of dispersed media servers, each dispersed media server configured to:

receive the multicast multimedia stream from the source server;

adapt the multicast multimedia stream to provide unicast multimedia stream conforming to the quality of service requirements of a downstream network segment; and

relay the multimedia stream through the downstream network segment to a recipient computer.

50. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein adapting includes compressing the multimedia stream.

51. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein adapting includes translating the protocol of the multimedia stream.

52. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein the multimedia stream is a video stream.

53. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein the network segment is a wireless network segment.

54. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the recipient computer is a handheld device, a communication device, or any combination thereof.

53. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein the network segment is a set-top box, and enhanced television, an interactive television, or any combination thereof.